

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 145786  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 DOTE-00 HEW-04 OES-07 EB-07  
( ISO ) R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/C:DWCOX:MMS  
APPROVED BY ARA:FJDEVINE  
ARA/AND - MRBARNEBEY  
ARA/ECP - DEDMINSTER  
ARA/ECP - JO'MAHONY  
USDA - JSMITH (SUBS)  
DOT - WSMENDENHALL (SUBS)  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
USDA FOR APHIS, DOT FOR FHWA  
-----051482 230447Z /14  
P R 230056Z JUN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 145786

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, ELTN, CO

SUBJECT: FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE/DARIEN GAP HIGHWAY

REFERENCE: BOGOTA 5374; BOGOTA 5430

1. DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE, STATE, AND TRANSPORTATION  
ARE CONCERNED THAT THE PROPOSED ICA REORGANIZATION WILL  
WEAKEN THE ALREADY INADEQUATE STRUCTURE FOR ERADICATING  
FMD IN THE CONTROL ZONES. RATHER, ORGANIZATION CHANGE TO  
GIVE MORE AUTONOMY TO THE JOINT FMD PROGRAM IS NEEDED, AS  
PROPOSED DURING THE LAST MEETINGS OF THE SENIOR REVIEW AND  
CONSULTATIVE GROUPS IN BOGOTA. ACCORDINGLY, THE EMBASSY  
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IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE  
AND FOREIGN RELATIONS AT APPROPRIATE LEVELS ALONG THE  
FOLLOWING LINES.

-- THE USG IS CONCERNED THAT THE PROPOSED REORGANIZATION  
WILL WEAKEN THE JOINT FMD ERADICATION EFFORT.

-- EVEN UNDER THE HERETOFORE EXISTING ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, THERE HAVE BEEN SERIOUS SHORTCOMINGS IN ACHIEVING THE GOALS OF THE JOINT PROGRAM.

-- THE USG CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE WAY TO ACCOMPLISH PROGRAM GOALS IS TO CREATE AN AUTONOMOUS JOINT COMMISSION, WHICH WOULD HAVE COMPLETE AUTHORITY OVER ADMINISTRATION, PERSONNEL, AND DISEASE CONTROL ACTIVITIES.

-- IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE CONSIDERATION, USDA HAS BEGUN TO EVALUATE THE CONTINUANCE OF ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE FMD PROGRAM.

-- AN EFFECTIVE FMD CONTROL PROGRAM IS PREREQUISITE FOR CONTINUED USG FINANCING OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE COLOMBIAN PORTION OF THE DARIEN GAP HIGHWAY.

-- THE USG REQUESTS THAT ANY CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF THE JOINT FMD PROGRAM BE DEFERRED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETINGS OF THE SENIOR REVIEW AND CONSULTATIVE GROUPS (WE ARE AIMING FOR AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 1).

2. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO BRING ITS DEMARCHE TO THE ATTENTION OF THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS, WHICH OF COURSE HAS AN INTEREST IN A SUCCESSFUL FMD CONTROL PROGRAM, IN ORDER THAT THE HIGHWAY CAN BE BUILT.  
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3. FYI: WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE CIRCUIT COURT DECISION ON THE APPEAL OF THE INJUNCTION IS EXPECTED BY THE END OF AUGUST. END FYI.

4. COMMENT: THE APPARENT LACK OF URGENCY WITH WHICH PRESIDENT LOPEZ VIEWS THE FMD ERADICATION EFFORT CONFIRMS OUR DOUBTS ABOUT THE POLITICAL COMMITMENT OF THE GOC TO A SUCCESSFUL FMD CONTROL PROGRAM AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE HIGHWAY. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE WE MUST CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO MAKE THE FMD CONTROL PROGRAM MORE EFFECTIVE.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISEASE CONTROL, POLICIES, CONSTRUCTION, ANIMAL DISEASES, REORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), DARIEN GAP HIGHWAY PROJECTS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**To:** BOGOTA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009